

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 198215
ORIGIN AF-10

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PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 ACDA-10 /048 R

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, SO, US

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT ON U.S. ARMS DECISION

1. AUGUST 18 NY TIMES' ARTICLE ON ETHIOPIAN-SOMALI
CONFLICT CONCLUDES WITH FOLLOWING SENTENCE: QUOTE THE
UNITED STATES HAD ANNOUNCED WILLINGNESS TO SELL DEFENSIVE
WEAPONS TO SOMALIA, BUT AFTER SOMALIA APPEARED TO BE THE
AGGRESSOR IN FIGHTING WITH ETHIOPIA, THE OFFER WAS
RESCINDED. UNQUOTE
2. AT THE NOON BRIEFING ON AUGUST 18, THE SPOKESMAN
VOLUNTEERED THE FOLLOWING CORRECTION: QUOTE AND ANOTHER
STORY I SAW -- I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER IT CAME FROM A
BRIEFING OR NOT -- HAD TO DO WITH THE QUESTION OF OUR
COMMITMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO HELP SOMALIA WITH WEAPONS.
I SAID AT THAT TIME THAT WE WERE NOT RESCINDING THAT,
BUT THAT WE ARE NOT AT THIS POINT PREPARED TO ANNOUNCE
WHEN WE WOULD EFFECT THIS AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO SUPPLY
WEAPONS AND THAT THAT HESITATION ON ANNOUNCING THAT HAS
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TO DO WITH OUR CONCERN ABOUT THE FIGHTING IN THE OGADEN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Sent Date: 19-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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